



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Meeting Date: May 28, 2020

Agenda Item: Proposal to add Township, Range and Section to the mandatory reporting requirements for reporting a Mountain Lion harvest.

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 minutes

Background:

The current Mountain lion regulations require mandatory reporting of a harvest within 12 hours but do not require the mandatory reporting of Township, Range and Section (TRS).

In 2005, the commission voted to require the mandatory reporting of the TRS for furbearers. This regulation has been successful in collecting accurate harvest information and has been a useful tool for enforcement. Game wardens frequently monitor the harvest of furbearers and are able to use TRS data to verify kill sites.

In an effort to promote consistency across species/regulations, the trapping regulation review committee recommended that TRS become a mandatory reporting requirement for lion harvest. Because this information is currently on the lion harvest form and is collected for furbearers, making this an additional requirement should be minimal effort to comply. Additionally, the call center is equipped to collect this information.

Public Involvement Process & Results:

Public comment would be taken at this commission meeting after discussion and before a final vote is taken.

Alternatives & Analysis:

The commission can vote to implement mandatory reporting of TRS data for lion harvests. This will make the lion reporting requirements consistent with the furbearer reporting requirements and will help the enforcement division monitor lion harvest.

The commission can vote not to implement mandatory reporting of TRS data for lions and the regulations will remain the same.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale:

Fish, Wildlife and Parks Enforcement recommends the commission require reporting of TRS for hunters reporting a mountain lion harvest.



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Proposed Motion:

I move that the commission adopt a requirement for hunters to report Township, Range, and Section as a mandatory reporting requirement to mountain lion harvest reporting.